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BUDGET ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY AND TOXIC MATERIALS JUDICIARY REVENUE AND TAXATION

September 5, 2007

Honorable Dianne Feinstein United States Senate 331 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 Honorable Henry Waxman House of Representatives 2204 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator Feinstein and Representative Waxman:

I am writing in strong support of your legislative efforts to preclude the sale or commercial development of the West Los Angeles Veterans Affairs property. Specifically I enthusiastically endorse H.R. 2225, *The West Los Angeles Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center Preservation Act of 2007*, and the provision sponsored by Senator Feinstein in the 2008 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Bill.

With only 109 acres of the site currently protected by the Cranston Act, your legislation is critical to extending this safeguard to the full 388 acre campus. This will ensure that West Los Angeles Veterans Center is used for the purpose for which it was donated to the federal government in 1888 – the direct benefit of veterans – not commercial development or sale to private parties.

In addition, the Department of Veterans Affairs must fulfill the mandate imposed by Congress in 1998 to develop a master plan for the property. As you know, this site is located in a dense area of Los Angeles and only through proper planning, conducted in a transparent manner and including adequate community input, will a consensus plan for meeting the current and anticipated needs of our veterans at this site emerge.

Thank you again for your efforts to protect this important resource, and do not hesitate to call upon me if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Mike Feuer

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Assemblymember, 42nd District